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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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CC 98-77

23 SEP 1992

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Stop Code 1600A2  
IC-92-09604  
9202530

RECEIVED

SEP 24 1992

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Don Nickles  
United States Senate  
713 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Nickles:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of Don R. Bray, Business Manager, Lexington Assessment and Reception Center of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections located in Lexington, Oklahoma regarding the Commission's billed party preference proposal. Billed party preference is the term used to describe a proposal to change the way local telephone companies handle certain operator service calls.

Currently, if a caller places a "0+" operator services call (that is, the caller dials "0" and then a long-distance telephone number, without first dialing a carrier access code, such as 10-ATT), the call is carried by the operator services provider presubscribed to the telephone line from which the call originated. The presubscribed carrier for public payphones is chosen by the payphone owner or the owner of the premises on which the payphone is located. Operator service providers compete for payphone presubscription contracts by offering significant commissions to premises owners on long-distance traffic and then including those commission costs in their own rates to consumers.

In April 1992, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to consider whether the current presubscription system should be replaced by a billed party preference methodology. Under billed party preference, all 0+ calls would be handled automatically by the carrier predesignated by the party paying for the call. For example, a credit card call would be handled by the carrier that issued the card. A collect call would be handled by the carrier presubscribed to the called line.

Because billed party preference would replace the current presubscription system for operator services calls, operator service providers would no longer be likely to pay significant commissions to premises owners for presubscription contracts. In addition, billed party preference could make operator services much more user friendly for the calling public. In particular, it would allow callers to place their operator services calls without dialing access codes, while ensuring that the party paying for each call -- as opposed to the payphone or premises owner -- would determine the operator service provider to carry it.

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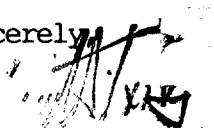
Honorable Don Nickles

2.

Because of these and other benefits that potentially could be offered by billed party preference, the Commission tentatively concluded in its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that billed party preference is, in concept, in the public interest. At the same time, the Commission sought detailed information and comment on a comprehensive range of issues relating to this proposal.

The Commission has thus far received extensive comment on the billed party preference proposal. Let me assure you that the Commission will carefully consider all of the ramifications of this important proposal before taking final action on it. We will incorporate your letter, including the letter from your constituent, in the record of this proceeding so that it may be accorded proper consideration by Commission staff. The enclosure to your letter is returned as requested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Cheryl A. Tritt', is written over a rectangular stamp area.

Cheryl A. Tritt  
Chief, Common Carrier Bureau

Enclosure

REC'D

REPAIRS

CCB

92-77

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## United States Senate

September 8, 1992

Respectfully referred to

920000

Federal Communications Commission

for such consideration as the communication  
herewith submitted may warrant, and for a report  
thereon, in duplicate to accompany return of  
enclosure.

By direction of

DON NICKLES  
U.S. Senator

Please reply to Rob Shofner of my staff.

Form #1

REC'D  
SEP 11 2 44 PM '92  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

David Walters  
Governor



Gary D. Maynard  
Director

## Oklahoma Department of Corrections

"Protecting You Is Our Mission"

July 21, 1992

RECEIVED JUL 23 1992

The Honorable Don Nichols  
United States Senator  
100 North Broadway  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102

Dear Senator Nichols:

Please find attached my letter to The Honorable Alfred C. Sikes, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission, regarding the proposal "Billed Party Preference" (BPP) in CC Docket No. 92-77 which is currently in deliberation.

It is my understanding the BPP proposal would dismantle the current ability to choose a primary operator service provider on operator-assisted 0+ (collect) calls processed by that carrier pre-selected by the billed number party. I truly believe, if this proposal takes effect it will result in a significant cost to the Oklahoma State taxpayer. Currently, the private carrier furnishes all inmate telephone equipment and pays a significant commission to the facility. This commission purchases indigent items for inmates and high priced ticket items such as ice machines, etc. Without these considerations, the funds would have to come from the Oklahoma taxpayer.

For these reasons, I respectfully request your involvement and support in opposing the BPP proposal, CC Docket No. 92-77.

Please let me know if I can help you in any way. I appreciate your help and would be grateful to learn of any action you take.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Don R. Bray".

Don R. Bray  
Business Manager

DRB:sdb

cc: Brent Crouse, Warden w/attachments

Attachment (2)

**Lexington Assessment and Reception Center**

Box 260, Lexington, Oklahoma 73051  
(405) 527-5676/FAX (405) 527-9892

An Equal Opportunity Employer

David Walters  
Governor



Gary D. Maynard  
Director

## Oklahoma Department of Corrections

"Protecting You Is Our Mission"

July 21, 1992

The Honorable Alfred C. Sikes, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M. Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: FCC Billed Party Preference (BPP)  
CC Docket No. 92-77

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the Lexington Assessment and Reception Center (LARC), I would like to voice my opposition to the above-mentioned proposal.

Lexington Assessment and Reception Center (LARC) is a correctional facility which houses approximately 1,150 inmates. Security is of the utmost importance whether it be in our facility or in our telephone system. Currently, we have a private carrier who processes our inmate telephone calls. There are several advantages to this method; however, the two most important advantages are that the State of Oklahoma taxpayer is the ultimate beneficiary and that the private carrier's operators are trained with the security factor in mind. The current competition among different inmate telephone service providers has benefitted our facility and our inmates with better service, responsiveness, maintenance, equipment, etc. All of this is at no cost to the Oklahoma taxpayer.

It is my understanding the BPP proposal would dismantle the current ability to choose a primary operator service provider on operator-assisted 0+ (collect) calls processed by that carrier. Under BPP, all such calls would be carried by the carrier pre-selected by the billed number party. Since a multitude of carriers would then process calls originating from our inmate telephone system automatically in accordance with billed party preferences, the incentive to obtain exclusive rights to process our 0+ traffic would suddenly disappear. Since an exclusive to telephone service gives the service provider increased revenue which is shared with the facility in the form of a monthly commission, the BPP proposal would result in a significant loss of funds to our facility plus additional expenditures for telephone equipment.

**Lexington Assessment and Reception Center**

Box 260, Lexington, Oklahoma 73051  
(405) 527-5676/FAX (405) 527-9892

An Equal Opportunity Employer

July 21, 1992

Page Two

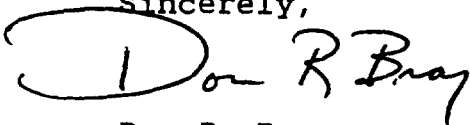
The Honorable Alfred C. Sikes, Chairman

RE: FCC Billed Party Preference (BPP)  
CC Docket No. 92-77

With these facts in mind, you can readily see why I am voicing my opposition to the proposal "Billed Party Preference" (BPP) in CC Docket No. 92-77. I strongly feel the BPP proposal will affect the current arrangements concerning our Inmate Phone System.

Please feel free to contact me in the event you have any questions concerning the Inmate Phone System or if I can be of further assistance. Your assistance in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Don R. Bray". The signature is enclosed within a hand-drawn oval.

Don R. Bray  
Business Manager  
Lexington Assessment and Reception Center

DRB:sdb

cc: The Honorable David Boren  
The Honorable Don Nichols  
The Honorable Dave McCurdy  
The Honorable James H. Quello  
The Honorable Sherrie Marshall  
The Honorable Ervin S. Duggan  
The Honorable Andrew C. Barrett  
Gary Phillips, Common Carrier Bureau  
Brent Crouse, Warden